ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for delaying asynchronous writes in a distributed file system, wherein the file system includes a unique identifier ("UID"), is disclosed. The method comprises buffering a page of dirty data with the unique identifier upon writing to the server; changing the unique identifier ("UID") to create a current unique identifier upon a failure of the server; comparing the buffered unique identifier with the current unique identifier when the page is requested while the page is in a written state; and handling the request responsive to the comparison. In other aspects of the invention, the invention comprises a computer programmed to perform the method and a program storage medium encoded with instructions that, when executed by a computer, perform the method.